Attorney Docket No. 9233-108

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Kenneth D. James et al.

Confirmation No.: 9468

Application No.: 10/723,933 Filed: November 26, 2003

For: NATRIURETIC COMPOUNDS, CONJUGATES, AND USES THEREOF

June 17, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment before examination of the above-identified application: